

REMARKS

Non-statutory Double Patenting

Claims 45-50, 52-66, and 68-103

Claims 45-50, 52-66, and 68-103 stand rejected as claiming an obvious variation of the invention claimed in claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent 6,714,984. Applicant does not admit that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is proper. Furthermore, Applicant does not admit that a determination or finding with respect to the validity of the '984 patent would effect the validity of the claims of the present application. Nonetheless, Applicant is submitting herewith the appropriate terminal disclaimer to overcome the rejection and therefore respectfully requests that the statutory double patenting rejection of the claim be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 51 and 67 contain allowable subject matter if rewritten to include all the limitations of the claims from which they each originally depended. Applicant believes the claims are allowable as they stand and therefore has not amended the claims in this response.

SUMMARY

Claims 45-103 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Sue Holloway at (408) 720-8300 x7514.

Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR
& ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 4/3, 2007


Eric S. Replogle
Agent for Applicant
Registration No. 52,161

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300 x7514